

**FINAL  
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR THE  
CHEMICAL SCHOOL LABORATORY SUMP, BUILDINGS 2281 AND 2282  
PARCELS 90(7) AND 225(7)  
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

**ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY**

**JUNE 2001**

**U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES  
DECISION DOCUMENT**

This Decision Document presents the determination that no further remedial action will be necessary to protect human health and the environment at the Chemical School Laboratory Sump, Buildings 2281 and 2282, Parcels 90(7) and 225(7), at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. The location of the parcels at FTMC is shown on Figure 1. In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Garrison at FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT consists of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.

Based on the results of the site investigation (SI) completed at the Chemical School Laboratory Sump, Buildings 2281 and 2282, Parcels 90(7) and 225(7), the U.S. Army will implement no further action at the site. This decision was made by the U.S. Army with concurrence by the BCT.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for the Chemical School Laboratory Sump, Buildings 2281 and 2282, Parcels 90(7) and 225(7). A list of background documents for Parcels 90(7) and 225(7) is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcels 90(7) and 225(7) is available at the public repositories listed on Page 3.

**REGULATIONS GOVERNING  
SITE**

FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510, established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense (DOD)

installations would be closed or realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program requires investigation and cleanup of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In addition, the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Public Law 102-426) requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process.

**SITE BACKGROUND**

FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County. FTMC consists of two main areas of government-owned properties: the Main Post and Pelham Range. Until May

## PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR PARCELS 90(7) AND 225(7)

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), 1998, *Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2001, *Final Site Investigation Report, Chemical School Laboratory Sump, Buildings 2281 and 2282, Parcels 90(7) and 225(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, June.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000, *Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, July.

QST Environmental, Inc. (QST), 1998, *Final Site Investigation Work Plan, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, March.

Science Applications International Corporation, 1998, *Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, July.

1998, the FTMC installation also included the Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased from the State of Alabama. The Main Post, which occupies 18,929 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which occupies 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

The Chemical School Laboratory Sump (Buildings 2281 and 2282) is located west of Galloway Road in the northwestern portion of the FTMC Main Post (Figure 1). The U.S. Army Chemical School Laboratory was located in Building 2281 and provided classroom and laboratory training in basic analytical and laboratory techniques until 1985 (Environmental Science and

Engineering, Inc. [ESE], 1998). A sump (Parcel 90[7]) was located adjacent to Building 2281, on the southwest side of the building (Figure 1). According to engineering plans, the sump was constructed of concrete sewer pipe and was approximately 42 inches in diameter by 6 feet deep. The sump contained 12 inches of crushed limestone and was connected to the sanitary sewer system. Chemical wastes generated in the building, including small quantities of acids, bases, solvents, and inorganic chemicals, were drained to the sump. When the laboratory was closed in 1985, chemicals from the laboratory were discharged to the sump, causing a chemical reaction. The sump contents were subsequently tested and determined to be nonhazardous. The sump was later pumped out, backfilled, and sealed (ESE, 1998).

Parcel 225(7) includes an area encompassing a small concrete block building (Building 2282), which is located just west of Building 2281 (Figure 1). Building 2282 was used by laboratory personnel as a solvent storage building. No releases were reported at Building 2282, and no evidence of release was observed during an SI visual site inspection.

### SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the environmental baseline survey (ESE, 1998) was used to group areas at FTMC into standardized parcel categories using DOD guidance. All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories, or a non-CERCLA qualifier designation, as appropriate. The seven CERFA categories include CERFA Uncontaminated Parcels (Categories 1 and 2), CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES  
FOR FORT McCLELLAN**

**Anniston Calhoun County Public Library**

Reference Section

Anniston, Alabama 36201

Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison

Telephone: (256) 237-8501

Fax: (256) 238-0474

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Houston Cole Library**

9<sup>th</sup> Floor

Jacksonville State University

700 Pelham Road

Jacksonville, Alabama 36265

Point of Contact: Ms. Rita Smith (256) 782-5249

Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

3 through 7), and CERFA Qualified Parcels. Parcels 90(7) and 225(7) were categorized as CERFA Category 7 parcels in the environmental baseline survey. CERFA Category 7 parcels are areas that are not evaluated or that require further evaluation (ESE, 1998).

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcels 90(7) and 225(7) are re-categorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response.

**SITE INVESTIGATION**

IT Corporation (IT) completed an SI at the Chemical School Laboratory Sump, Buildings 2281 and 2282, Parcels 90(7) and 225(7), to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (IT, 2001). As part of the SI, IT incorporated data previously collected at the site by QST Environmental, Inc. (QST).

IT and QST collected a total of two surface soil samples, four subsurface soil samples, and two groundwater samples during the SI at the site. Groundwater samples were collected from two permanent monitoring wells

installed during the SI. Samples were analyzed for metals, volatile organic compounds (VOC), and semivolatile organic compounds (SVOC). In addition, two subsurface soil samples were analyzed for total organic carbon.

To evaluate whether detected constituents present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, the analytical results were compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL) and ecological screening values (ESV) for FTMC (IT, 2000). The SSSLs and ESVs were developed as part of human health and ecological risk evaluations associated with SIs being performed under the BRAC Environmental Restoration

Program at FTMC. Additionally, metals concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs were compared to media-specific background screening values (Science Applications International Corporation, 1998).

The potential threat to human health is expected to be very low. Although the site is projected for reuse by the Alabama Army National Guard, the analytical data were screened against residential human health SSSLs to evaluate the site for possible unrestricted land reuse. Metals concentrations exceeding SSSLs in site media were below their respective background concentrations or within the range of background values and do not pose an unacceptable risk to human receptors. VOC and SVOC concentrations in site media were below SSSLs.

Selenium (less than 1.6 milligrams per kilogram [mg/kg]) exceeded its ESV and background concentration in both of the surface soil samples. In addition, two VOCs (tetrachloroethene and trichloroethene) were detected in surface soils at concentrations (less than 0.05 mg/kg) exceeding ESVs. However, the site is located within the developed area of the Main Post and does not support significant ecological habitat. Based on site conditions and the low levels of chemical constituents detected, the potential threat to ecological receptors is expected to be very low.

#### **SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS**

Remedial actions were not conducted at the Chemical School Laboratory Sump, Buildings 2281

and 2282, Parcels 90(7) and 225(7).

#### **DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION**

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcels 90(7) and 225(7). No further action is selected because further remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. The metals and chemical compounds detected in site media do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted land reuse. Furthermore, Parcels 90(7) and 225(7) are re-categorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. The U.S. Army will not take any further action to investigate, remediate, or monitor the Chemical School Laboratory Sump, Buildings 2281 and 2282, Parcels 90(3) and 225(3) (formerly Parcels 90[7] and 225[7]).

The following costs are associated with implementing the no-action alternative:

Capital Cost:	\$0
Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs:	\$0
Present Worth Cost:	\$0
Months to Implement:	None
Remedial Duration:	None.

#### **DECLARATION**

Remedial action is unnecessary at the Chemical School Laboratory Sump, Buildings 2281 and 2282, Parcels 90(3) and 225(3) (formerly Parcels 90[7] and 225[7]). The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with relevant federal and state regulations, and is a cost-effective application of public funds. This remedy will not leave in place hazardous substances at concentrations that require limiting the future use of the parcel, or that require land-use control restrictions. The site is released for unrestricted land reuse. Parcels 90(7) and 225(7) are re-categorized as CERFA Category 3 parcels. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at the Chemical School Laboratory Sump, Buildings 2281 and 2282, Parcels 90(3) and 225(3) (formerly Parcels 90[7] and 225[7]).

#### **QUESTIONS/COMMENTS**

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision

Document or other documents in  
the administrative record can be  
directed to:

Mr. Ronald M. Levy  
Fort McClellan BRAC  
Environmental Coordinator  
Tel: (256) 848-3539

E-mail: LevyR@mcclellan-  
emh2.army.mil

## ACRONYMS

BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
ESV	ecological screening value
FTMC	Fort McClellan
mg/kg	milligrams per kilogram
IT	IT Corporation
QST	QST Environmental, Inc.
SI	site investigation
SSSL	site-specific screening level
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
VOC	volatile organic compound

**Prepared under direction of:**

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Date

**Reviewed by:**

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Ronald M. Levy  
BRAC Environmental Coordinator  
Fort McClellan, Alabama

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Date

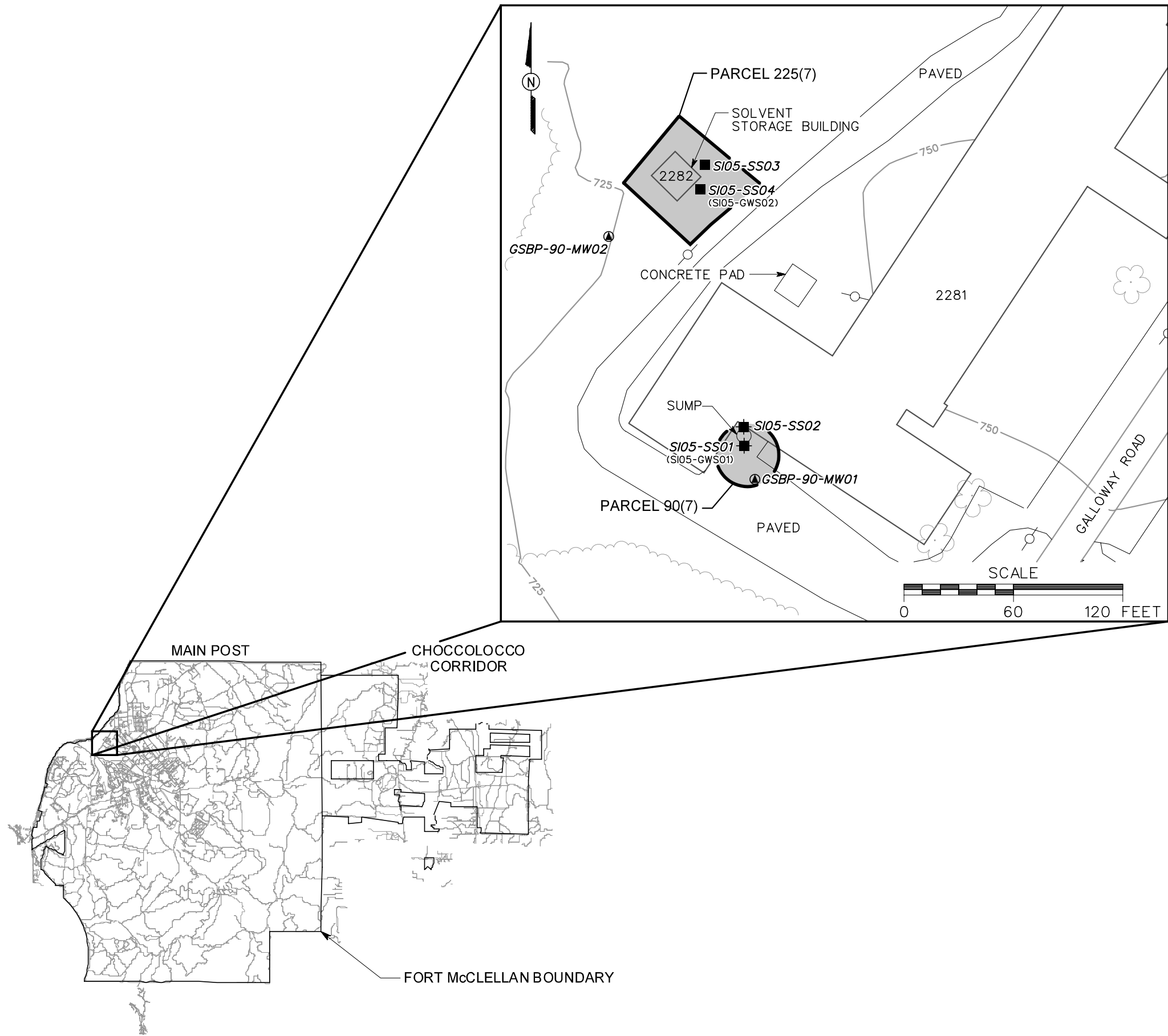
**Approved by:**

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Glynn D. Ryan  
Site Manager  
Fort McClellan, Alabama

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Date



## LEGEND

- UNIMPROVED ROADS AND PARKING
- PAVED ROADS AND PARKING
- BUILDING
- TOPOGRAPHIC CONTOURS (CONTOUR INTERVAL - 25 FOOT)
- TREES / TREELINE
- PARCEL BOUNDARY
- UTILITY POLE
- GROUNDWATER SAMPLE LOCATION
- SUBSURFACE SOIL SAMPLE LOCATION
- SURFACE SOIL SAMPLE LOCATION

**FIGURE 1**  
**SITE MAP**  
**CHEMICAL SCHOOL LABORATORY**  
**SUMP, BUILDINGS 2281 AND 2282**  
**PARCELS 90(7) AND 225(7)**

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
MOBILE DISTRICT  
FORT McCLELLAN  
CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
Contract No. DACA21-96-D-0018